

[1st February 1923]

*Appointment of bench magistrates in Salem.*

745 Q.—Rao Sahib S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR : With reference to question No. 924 and the answer thereto, dated the 15th November 1921, regarding bench magistrates in Salem, will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state whether non-official presidents have been appointed to any of the bench courts of the Salem district?

A.—Non-official presidents have since been appointed for the Bench Courts at Dharmapuri and Yercaud in the Salem district.

*Memorial from Taluk Shroffs' Association.*

746 Q.—Rao Sahib S. ELLAPPA CHETTIYAR : With reference to question No. 1181 and the answer thereto, dated the 19th January 1922, regarding a memorial from the Taluk Shroffs' Association, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(1) whether the Government have considered the memorials received from taluk shroffs praying for treatment similar to that accorded to taluk clerks; and

(2) if so, what the result is?

A.—(1) The answer is in the affirmative.

(2) The Government have not considered it necessary to place taluk shroffs on a level with taluk clerks.

*Stay of heads of departments at Ootacamund.*

747 Q.—Khan Sahib Munshi MUHAMMAD ABDUR RAHMAN SAHIB : Will the hon. the Home Member and the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) who are the heads of departments in each department of the Secretariat;

(b) which heads of departments have been permitted to have their headquarters at Ootacamund for the whole year or for a portion of the year;

(c) when the orders were first issued for the change of the headquarters of such heads of departments to Ootacamund;

(d) the circumstances under which it was considered necessary that such heads of departments should remain at Ootacamund all through the year or a portion of the year; and

(e) whether there is any extra expenditure involved to provincial revenues by such location of headquarters at Ootacamund as compared with what it would cost if the headquarters of such heads of departments were permanently located on the plains instead of on the hills and what is the amount involved in each case?

A.—The Inspector-General of Prisons has with the exception of a period of two or three years had his headquarters at Ootacamund since 1859. The reasons for placing them there were that he was just as available to the Members of Government as if he were stationed in Madras and was centrally situated in respect of important jails, while residence there tended to promote his health and efficiency.